



# California Redistricting Basics

[WeDrawTheLinesCA.org](http://WeDrawTheLinesCA.org)



# Reminder—No Public Input Will Be Taken Today

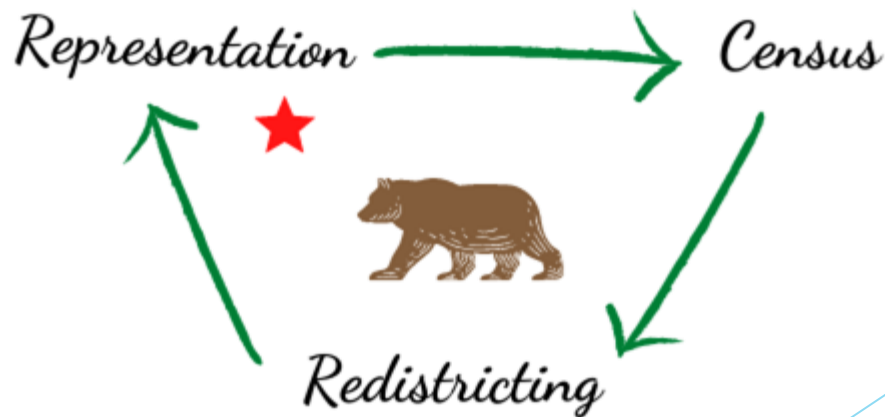
**Per California Government Code Section 8253(a)(3)--**  
Commission members and staff may not communicate with or receive communications about redistricting matters from anyone outside of a public hearing. Therefore, the Commission will not be taking any public input during these educational presentations.

To provide public input, please visit the Commission's website at: [WeDrawTheLinesCA.org](http://WeDrawTheLinesCA.org).



# What is Redistricting?

Drawing new boundaries that determine which Californians are represented by each electoral district.



# Why We Redraw District Maps



- ▶ Communities change.
- ▶ People are born, die, and move.
- ▶ Communities grow and shrink.
- ▶ Areas where there were once roughly the same number of people become unequal.

# Your Voice

- ▶ Why is redistricting important?
- ▶ Why should you be involved?
- ▶ Your role in the process

Redistricting has been used at times to exclude communities from political power. By fully participating in and monitoring the upcoming redistricting process, more communities may have a better opportunity to elect candidates of their choice who will voice their needs and interests.

*Your Voice  
Your Choice*



# How Redistricting Affects You

## Power to the People



## Champion Your Issues



## Funding Priorities



## Community Boundaries



# Road to Fair Representation

- ▶ **Census**—Every ten years the entire U.S. population is counted, and that data is used to draw new maps to account for population shifts across the states and districts.
- ▶ **Reapportionment**—The federal reallocation of House seats among the states, done after each national census to ensure seats are held by the states in proportion to the size of their population.
- ▶ **Redistricting**—Drawing new boundaries that determine which Californians are represented by each electoral district.
- ▶ **Fair Representation**—Historically, legislators have drawn maps that allowed them to choose their constituents rather than enabling constituents to choose their representatives. This former system undermined the concept of fair representation, which is to give people the power to choose their representatives.



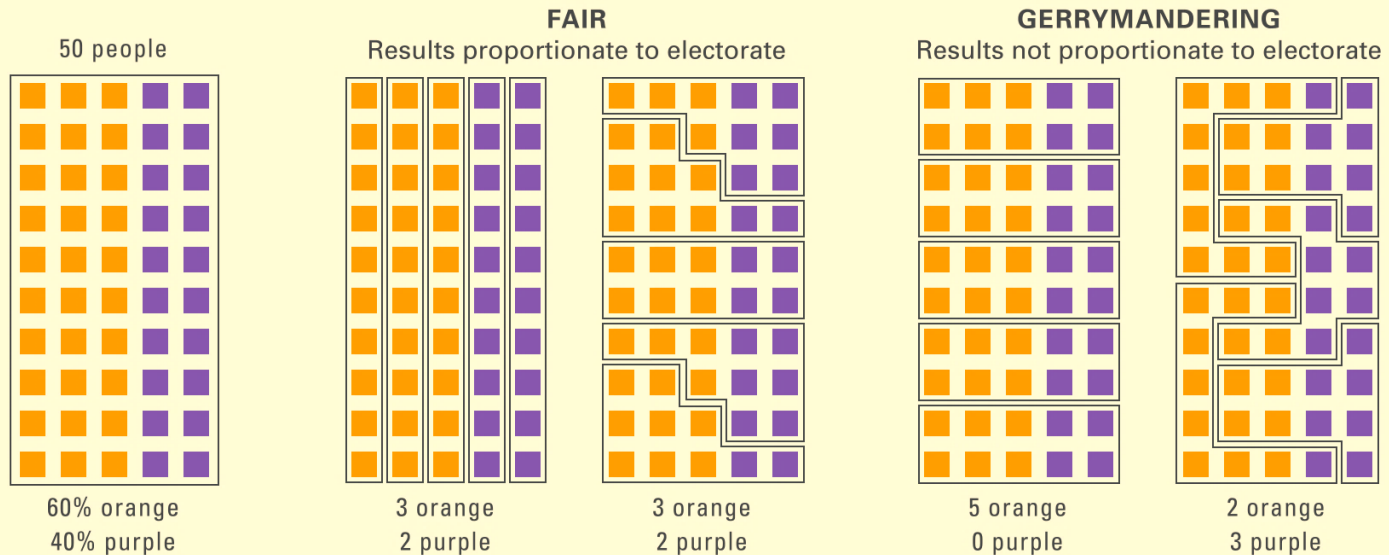


# Why Independent Redistricting Matters

## GERRYMANDERING

How differently drawn district maps produce different electoral results

FOUR WAYS TO DIVIDE 50 PEOPLE INTO 5 DISTRICTS:



© Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.



# 6 Line Drawing Criteria by Order

The Commission must follow these weighted criteria in this order when drawing district maps:

<b>1</b> <b>Equal Population</b> Districts must be of equal population to comply with the US Constitution.	<b>2</b> <b>Voting Rights Act</b> Districts must comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that minorities have an equal opportunity to elect representatives of their choice.	<b>3</b> <b>Contiguity</b> Districts must be drawn so that all parts of the district are connected to each other.
<b>4</b> <b>Communities of Interest</b> Districts must minimize the division of cities, counties, neighborhoods, and communities of interest to the extent possible	<b>5</b> <b>Geographically Compact</b> Districts should be geographically compact such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for more distant populations. This requirement refers to density, not shape.	<b>6</b> <b>Nesting Districts</b> Where practicable each Senate District should be comprised of two complete and adjacent Assembly Districts and Board of Equalization districts shall be composed of 10 complete and adjacent State Senate Districts.

In addition, the place of residence of any incumbent or political candidate may not be considered in the creation of a map, and districts may not be drawn for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against an incumbent, political candidate, or political party.

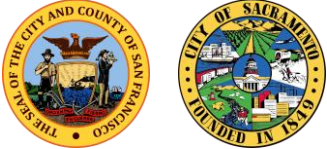
# Different Redistricting Efforts



**State**—Congressional, State Senate, State Assembly, and Board of Equalization.



**Counties**—58 counties, some with their own process.



**Cities**—482 cities, some with their own process.



**School Districts**—1037 school districts, some with their own process.

**Other Redistricting Efforts**—water districts, community college districts, etc.



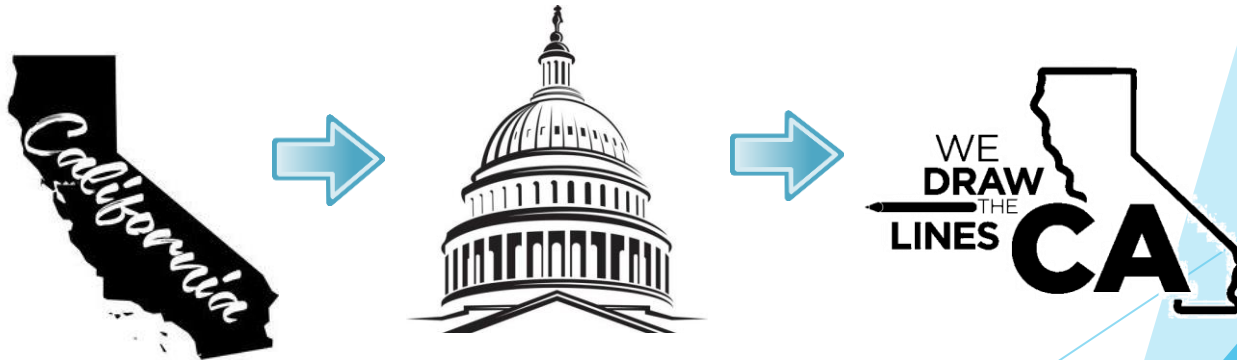
# History

- ▶ **Prior to 2010**—Legislators drew lines, or the court did if the legislature failed to carry out this duty properly
- ▶ **Proposition 11 (2008)**—the Voters FIRST Act/We Draw the Lines for State Senate, State Assembly, and Board of Equalization
- ▶ **Proposition 20 (2010)**—Added congressional districts
- ▶ **2010 Redistricting Commission**
- ▶ **2020 Redistricting Commission**
- ▶ **Other States with Independent Commissions**—Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Michigan, Montana and Washington use independent commissions to draw the lines.



# Commissioner Selection

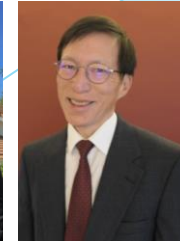
- ▶ **Commissioner Applications (Over 20,000 applicants)**
- ▶ **Supplemental Applications (2,000)**
- ▶ **Interview/Screening Process (120 applicants)**
- ▶ **Applicant Pool Sent to Legislature (60 applicants)**
- ▶ **Legislative Strikes (12 strikes each party)**
- ▶ **Lottery System: First 8**
- ▶ **Final 6 Selection**



# Who we are

## ► 2020 Commissioners: 14 Members

•Isra Ahmad, San Jose, No Party Preference	•Sara Sadhwani, La Cañada Flintridge, Democrat
•Linda Akutagawa, Huntington Beach, No Party Preference	•Patricia S. Sinay, Encinitas, Democrat
•Jane Andersen, Berkeley, Republican	•Derric Taylor, Los Angeles, Republican
•Alicia Fernández, Clarksburg, Republican	•Pedro Toledo, Petaluma, No Party Preference
•Neal Fornaciari, Tracy, Republican	•Trena Turner, Stockton, Democrat
•J. Ray Kennedy, Morongo Valley, Democrat	•Angela Vázquez, Los Angeles, Democrat
•Antonio Le Mons, Studio City, No Party Preference	•Russell Yee, Oakland, Republican



# Commissioner Duties

## ▶ Community Outreach/ Public Input Meetings

- Engage the public
- Collect community input
- Hear public testimony



## ▶ Draw Maps--Draft and final maps for Congress (52), Senate (40), Assembly (80), and Board of Equalization (4)

### EXAMPLE: SACRAMENTO



**CONGRESS**

(700,000 people)



**SENATE**

(931,000 people)



**ASSEMBLY**

(466,000 people)



**BOE**

(9 million people)





# Outreach Zones



ZONE	COUNTIES	COMMISSIONERS
A	Del Norte, Humboldt County, Mendocino, Lake, Napa, Sonoma, Trinity	Commissioner Toledo Commissioner Taylor
B	Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama	Commissioner Sinay Commissioner Yee
C	Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano	Commissioner Yee Commissioner Toledo
D	El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo, Yuba	Commissioner Fernandez Commissioner LeMons
E	Monterey, San Benito, San Luis, Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Ventura	Commissioner Fornaciari Commissioner Kennedy
F	Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare	Commissioner Turner Commissioner Vazquez
G	Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Inyo, Mariposa, Mono, Tuolumne	Commissioner Andersen Commissioner Akutagawa
H	Los Angeles	Commissioner Taylor Commissioner Ahmad
I	Riverside, San Bernardino	Commissioner Kennedy Commissioner LeMons
J	Orange	Commissioner Akutagawa Commissioner Sadhwani
K	Imperial, San Diego	Commissioner Sinay Commissioner Ahmad



# Communities of Interest (COI)

- ▶ **Communities of Interest (COI)**--A community of interest is a concentrated population which shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation.
- ▶ Examples include culture, areas in which the people share similar living standards, use the same transportation facilities, have similar work opportunities, or have access to the same media.
- ▶ People can belong to multiple communities of interest.
- ▶ Community of Interest is not the same as a district but are key building blocks of districts.



# Defining Your Communities

- ▶ Communities of interest can be described by creating maps and telling us about your community.
- ▶ **Oral Testimony**—Personal stories are powerful as well as providing historical context.
- ▶ **Written Testimony**—A written description can be used to tell your community's story.
- ▶ **Community Issues**—Often communities get involved in redistricting because they feel their issues have not been adequately addressed by their elected representatives. Are there issues your Community of Interest focuses on?
- ▶ **Boundary Maps**—Create a map of your neighborhood or area.



# Participating in the Process

1



**DESCRIBE**  
your community

2



**DRAW**  
your community on a map

3



**SEND**  
your testimony directly to  
the Commission

**Provide your input today at:**  
[DrawMyCACommunity.org](https://DrawMyCACommunity.org)



# Ways to Provide Public Input

- ▶ **Communities of Interest (COI) Mapping Tool:** [DrawMyCACommunity.org](https://DrawMyCACommunity.org)
  - ▶ Will also be available in paper form with pre-paid postage.
- ▶ **On Our Website:** [www.WeDrawTheLinesCA.org](https://www.WeDrawTheLinesCA.org), and click on the “Draw My CA Community icon”
- ▶ **By E-mail:** [VotersFirstAct@crc.ca.gov](mailto:VotersFirstAct@crc.ca.gov)
- ▶ **By Phone:** (916) 323-0323
- ▶ **By Mail:** California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The online COI tool is available in English, Spanish, simplified Chinese, traditional Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Korean, Armenian, Farsi, Arabic, Russian, Japanese, Punjabi, and Khmer. Tutorials are also available in those languages.



# Language Access

- ▶ Translation of Materials: Fact Sheet, Flyer, FAQs, California Redistricting Basics Presentation
  - Languages—Spanish, simplified Chinese, traditional Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Korean, Armenian, Farsi, Arabic, Russian, Japanese, Punjabi, and Khmer.
- ▶ Interpretation of public comment at CRC business meetings may be provided with five days advance notice.
- ▶ Written public input can be sent to the CRC in any format and will be translated into English.
- ▶ The Commission will translate non-English language inputs from the COI tool into English.
- ▶ If you need an interpreter to provide input during a meeting, we ask that you notify the Commission five business days prior to a meeting to request interpreter services. The Commission will attempt to contract with an interpreter in the requested language.



# CA Supreme Court Ruling

## Legislature of CA v Alex Padilla S262530 July 17, 2020

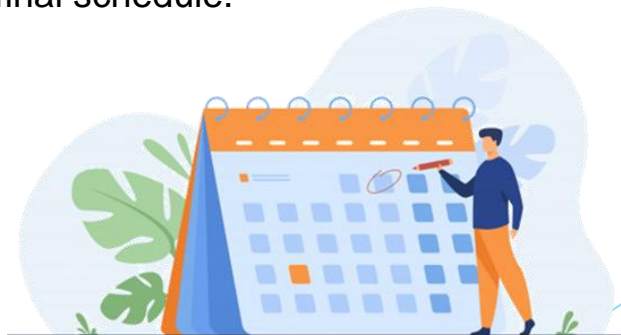
The California Supreme Court ruled on July 17, 2020 that the Commission should have until December 15, 2021 to submit its maps to the California Secretary of State due to the delay in release of census results. If census results are received after July 31, 2021, the Commission's deadline will be adjusted accordingly.



# Timeline

- ▶ **February-May, 2021:** Education Presentations (California Redistricting Basics)
- ▶ **April 2021:** Reapportionment Data
- ▶ **June-August, 2021:** Public Input Meetings (COI)
- ▶ **August 15-30, 2021:** Census Data Expected to the State
- ▶ **September 30-October 31, 2021:** Census Data Expected to the Commission
- ▶ **October-December, 2021:** Public Input Meetings/Line Drawing Sessions (Pre district maps)
- ▶ **November-December, 2021:** Draft District Maps Released
- ▶ **December 2021-January 2022:** Public Input Meetings/Line Drawing Sessions
- ▶ **December 2021-February 2022:** District Maps Released
- ▶ **December 2021-February 2022:** Final District Maps to Secretary of State

\*Dates will be updated on our website once the census data are received and the Commission adopts the final schedule.





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# Contact Us

To request an informational session, please contact the Commission.

**California Citizens Redistricting Commission**  
**721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260**  
**Sacramento, CA 95814**  
**(916) 323-0323**  
[Marcy.Kaplan@crc.ca.gov](mailto:Marcy.Kaplan@crc.ca.gov)

For more information about the Commission, please visit:  
**WeDrawTheLinesCA.org**



Social Media Handles: @WeDrawTheLinesCA

